

SENATE BILL 2008

By Massey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63
and Title 68, relative to Down syndrome.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new part:

68-1-2601. This part shall be known and may be cited as the "Down Syndrome Information Act of 2018."

68-1-2602. As used in this part:

- (a) "Department" means the department of health; and
- (b) "Down syndrome" means a chromosomal condition caused by an error in cell division that results in the presence of an extra whole or partial copy of chromosome 21.

68-1-2603.

(a) The department shall, within existing resources, make available up-to-date, evidence-based written information about Down syndrome that has been reviewed by medical experts and state and national Down syndrome organizations, including physical, developmental, educational, and psychosocial outcomes, life expectancy, clinical course, intellectual and functional development, and treatment options. The written information shall include:

- (1) Contact information regarding first call programs;
- (2) National, state, regional, and local Down syndrome organizations;

and

- (3) Other educational and support programs.

(b) The department shall make this information available to persons who render prenatal care, postnatal care, or genetic counseling to parents who receive a prenatal or postnatal diagnosis of Down syndrome. The department shall also make this information available to any person who has received a positive test result from a test for Down syndrome.

(c) The information provided under this section may be culturally and linguistically appropriate for a person receiving a positive prenatal diagnosis and for the family of a child receiving a postnatal diagnosis of Down syndrome.

(d) The department shall make available this information on the department's website.

68-2-2604.

(a) A healthcare provider who renders prenatal or postnatal care or genetic counselor who renders genetic counseling may, upon receipt of a positive test result from a test for Down syndrome, provide the expectant or new parent with the information provided by the department under this part.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be deemed to create a duty of care or other legal obligation beyond the requirements set forth in this section.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018, the public welfare requiring it.